

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An agent purchase method for agent purchase via communication lines comprising the steps of:

5 a step which, by receiving from the user terminal the specification of the purchased merchandise and the specification of the seller selling said merchandise via communication lines as the supplier of said merchandise, accepts the request for agent purchase of said merchandise;

10 a step to refer to or update the credit level record of said seller for transactions;

a step to purchase the merchandise requested for agent purchase from said seller and to deliver the merchandise to said user and

15 a step to manage charging for the agent purchase service provided to said user.

2. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1 wherein:

5 the credit level information about each of said sellers selling the merchandise via communication lines is recorded in the database and

said database is searched for the credit level record of the seller specified as the supplier of said merchandise so that the requested agent purchase is executed only when a sufficiently good credit level is

10 recorded.

3. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
which is

used for provision of the agent purchase service  
to the users of the Internet connection service rendered  
5 by an Internet provider.

4. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
wherein:

said agent purchase is requested  
with specification of said seller by specifying  
5 the address of the Internet web page of the seller.

5. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
which is

used for provision of the agent purchase service  
to the users of the Internet connection service by an  
5 Internet provider wherein:

said Internet provider charges the users of said  
Internet connection service to pay the utilization fee  
of the agent purchase service together with the fee of  
the Internet connection service and collects these fees  
10 together.

6. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
which is

used for provision of the agent purchase service  
to the users of the Internet connection service by an  
Internet provider wherein:

said agent purchase service is requested  
with specification of said seller by specifying  
the address of the Internet web page of the seller and  
said Internet provider charges the users of said  
Internet connection service to pay the utilization fee  
of the agent purchase service together with the fee of  
the Internet connection service and collects these fees  
together.

7. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
further comprising:

a step to classify said sellers from which the  
agent purchase is available by the category of the  
merchandise to be sold and to record such list and

a step to search said list for the seller selling  
the merchandise requested for agent purchase from the  
user.

8. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1  
further comprising:

a step to record the credit level information for  
each of said sellers selling the merchandise via  
communication lines to a database,

to search said database for the credit level

record of said seller specified as the supplier of said merchandise and to execute the requested agent purchase only when a sufficiently good credit level is recorded,

10           a step to classify said sellers from which the agent purchase is available by the category of the merchandise to be sold and to record such list and  
15           a step to search said list for the seller selling the merchandise requested for agent purchase from the user.

9.       An agent purchase method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

5           a step to search said communication lines for the seller selling the merchandise requested for agent purchase from the user,

          a step to investigate the transaction credit level of the seller selling the applicable merchandise hit by said search and

10          a step to execute the agent purchase from the applicable seller when the seller hit by said search has a sufficient credit level.

10.      An agent purchase method according to Claim 1 further comprising:

          a step to register the sellers selling the merchandise and

5           a step to make the information about the

merchandises sold by the registered sellers public on communication lines.

11. An agent purchase method according to Claim 1 wherein

the fee of the agent purchase service for the merchandise sold by said registered seller is charged to the applicable seller.

12. An agent purchase method for agent purchasing via communication lines comprising the steps of:

a step to register the sellers selling the merchandise,

a step to open the information about the merchandise sold by the registered sellers on communication lines,

a step to receive request for selling of the merchandise the user desires to purchase from the user terminal,

a step to deliver the applicable merchandise to said user for selling and

a step to manage charging of the applicable merchandise price to said user and charging of the agent purchase service to said seller and

being used for provision of the agent merchandise purchase service to the users of the Internet connection service by an Internet provider.

13. An agent purchase system to provide the agent purchase service where the merchandise requested by the user is purchased for the user comprising:

a terminal of the user and

a server to manage the agent purchase service and said server comprising

request acceptance means which receives the specification of the purchased merchandise and the specification of the seller selling said merchandise via communication lines as the supplier of said merchandise so as to accept the request for agent purchase,

recording means to record, references and updates the credit level information about each of said sellers selling the merchandise via communication lines,

judgment means to judge whether to execute the requested agent purchase based on the credit level record of said seller, and

charge management means to manage charging of the agent purchase service rendered to the user.

14. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13 wherein

said server further comprises

purchase means which executes the purchase procedures where said merchandise requested for agent purchase is purchased from said specified seller via

communication lines according to the request contents received from said user.

15. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13 wherein:

said server comprises delivery means which records the delivery destination of the user who requested the agent purchase of the merchandise for each of said merchandises and instructs the merchandise transporter to deliver the merchandise purchased from said seller with specifying the destination.

16. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13 wherein:

said server further comprises:

purchase means which executes the purchase procedures where said merchandise requested for agent purchase is purchased from said specified seller via communication lines according to the request contents received from said user and

delivery means which records the delivery destination of the user who requested the agent purchase of the merchandise for each of said merchandises and instructs the merchandise transporter to deliver the merchandise purchased from said seller with specifying the destination.

17. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13  
wherein:

said server comprises Internet server function to  
connect said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
5 manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which the user connects via Internet.

18. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13  
wherein:

said server  
comprises Internet server function to connect  
5 said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which the user connects via Internet and  
said request acceptance means  
10 accepts the specification of said seller by  
specification of the Internet web page address.

19. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13  
wherein:

said server  
comprises Internet server function to connect  
5 said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said



seller to which the user connects via Internet and  
said request acceptance means  
10 accepts the specification of said seller by  
specification of the Internet web page address and  
said terminal of the user comprises  
a web browser to display the web page of said  
seller and

15 ordering means to send the specification of the  
purchased merchandise and the specification of said  
seller as the supplier of said merchandise to said  
server so as to request agent purchase and  
said ordering means comprising  
20 means to specify said seller by sending, to said  
server, the address of the web page currently displayed  
on said web browser as the web page address of said  
seller.

20. An agent purchase system according to Claim 13  
wherein:

said server

comprises Internet server function to connect  
5 said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which the user connects via Internet and  
said charge management means  
10 charges and manages the fee of the agent purchase

service of said user together with the Internet connection service fee.

21. A server which manages the agent purchase service via communication lines comprising:

request acceptance means which, by receiving from the user terminal the specification of the purchased merchandise and the specification of the seller selling said merchandise via communication lines as the supplier of said merchandise, accepts the request for agent purchase;

recording means to record, refer to or update the credit level information about each of the sellers selling the merchandise via communication lines,

judgment means to judge whether or not to execute the requested agent purchase based on the credit level record of said seller and

charge management means to manage charging for the agent purchase service provided to said user.

22. A server according to Claim 21 further comprising:

purchase means which executes the purchase procedures where said merchandise requested for agent purchase is purchased from said specified seller via communication lines according to the request contents received from said user.

23. A server according to Claim 21 comprising:  
delivery means which  
records the delivery destination of the user who  
requested the agent purchase of the merchandise for each  
of said merchandises and

instructs the merchandise transporter to deliver  
the merchandise purchased from said seller with  
specifying the destination.

24. A server according to Claim 21 which:  
comprises Internet server function to connect  
said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which said user connects via Internet.

25. A server according to Claim 21 which:  
comprises Internet server function to connect  
said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which said user connects via Internet and  
said request acceptance means  
accepts the specification of said seller by  
specification of the Internet web page address.

26. A server according to Claim 21 which:

comprises Internet server function to connect  
said terminal of the user to the Internet and  
manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which the user connects via Internet and  
said charge management means  
charges and manages the fee of the agent purchase  
service of said user together with the Internet  
connection service fee.

27. A computer readable memory containing the  
transaction management program for the agent purchase  
service via communication lines wherein

the transaction management program for the agent  
purchase service comprises

a request acceptance step which, by receiving  
from the user terminal the specification of the  
purchased merchandise and the specification of the  
seller selling said merchandise via communication lines  
as the supplier of said merchandise, accepts the request  
for agent purchase;

a recording step to refer to or update the credit  
level information about each of said sellers selling the  
merchandise via communication lines,

a judgment step to determine whether or not to  
execute the requested agent purchase based on the credit

level record of said seller and

a charging management step to manage charging for the agent purchase service provided to said user.

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28. A computer readable memory containing the transaction management program for the agent purchase service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent purchase service further comprises:

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a purchase step to execute the purchase procedures where said merchandise requested for agent purchase is purchased from said specified seller via communication lines according to the request contents received from said user.

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29. A computer readable memory containing the transaction management program for the agent purchase service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent purchase service comprises:

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a purchase step to execute the purchase procedures where said merchandise requested for agent purchase is purchased from said specified seller via communication lines according to the request contents received from said user, and

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a delivery step where the delivery destination of the user who requested the agent purchase of the

merchandise is recorded for each of said merchandises  
and the merchandise transporter is instructed to deliver  
the merchandise purchased from said seller with  
specification of the destination.

30. A computer readable memory containing the  
transaction management program for the agent purchase  
service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent  
purchase service

provides the Internet connection service to said  
terminal of each user and

manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which said user connects via Internet.

31. A computer readable memory containing the  
transaction management program for the agent purchase  
service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent  
purchase service

provides the Internet connection service to said  
terminal of each user and

manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which said user connects via Internet and

said request acceptance step

accepts the specification of said seller by  
specification of the Internet web page address.

32. A computer readable memory containing the  
transaction management program for the agent purchase  
service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent  
purchase service

provides the Internet connection service to said  
terminal of each user and

manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said  
seller to which said user connects via Internet and

said charge management step

charges and manages the fee of the agent purchase  
service of said user together with the Internet  
connection service fee.

33. A computer readable memory containing the  
transaction management program for the agent purchase  
service according to Claim 27 wherein:

the transaction management program for the agent  
purchase service

provides the Internet connection service to said  
terminal of each user and

manages the agent purchase service for the  
merchandise sold by said seller on the web page of said

- 10        seller to which said user connects via Internet and  
              said request acceptance step  
              accepts the specification of said seller by  
specification of the Internet web page address and  
              said charge management step
- 15        charges and manages the fee of the agent purchase  
service of said user together with the Internet  
connection service fee.